

Subject: Focusing on The Gas Co., Homelessness & The Green Economy
From: "L.A. City Controller Ron Galperin" <controller.galperin@lacity.org>
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Los Angeles City Controller

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Focusing on...Homelessness



The City and the County have just announced a joint, comprehensive plan to combat homelessness in our region. With an estimated 44,000 people living on our streets, we have no greater imperative than to address this crisis.

Make no mistake: addressing homelessness is costly—but NOT addressing homelessness is even more expensive. That may sound paradoxical, but consider how much we as a City spend on services for the homeless among us. Paramedics, law enforcement, sanitation ... It all adds up.

To give people an idea of how the City currently spends money to address the scourge of homelessness, my office has created [a dataset of City funds relating to housing and homelessness](#).

Focusing on...Securing Our Water Supply and Power Grid

Our recent [Industrial, Economic and Administrative Survey](#) of the Dept. of Water and Power is already making waves--and bringing about much-needed reform.

The IEA, which was released in December, identified security flaws that could put the DWP's immense water and power infrastructure at risk. In the report, we called on the DWP to take corrective measures.

Last week, DWP named a new interim manager to oversee security and emergency management, and DWP officials were called in to report to the City Council on the status of our security recommendations.

Tune in: Sun., Feb. 14 at 11 am. Newsmakers on KABC7. I'll be discussing our report and proposals for Water & Power reform.

Focusing On...The Gas Company (And Its Franchise Agreement with the City)

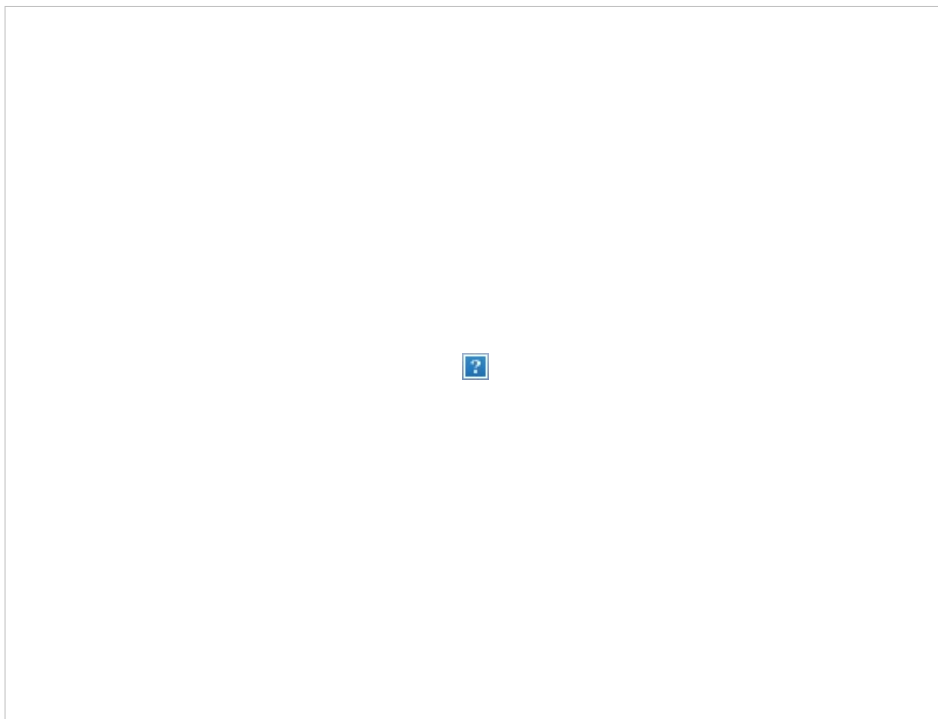


Does it make sense to exempt The Gas Company from paying Street Damage Restoration Fees to the City when it digs up our streets to make gas line improvements? None of the other utilities — including DWP — get this exemption.

This and similar questions will be the focus of an audit my office has just begun, which will evaluate The Gas Company's franchise agreement with the City and the extent to which its provisions protect the City and its residents — from both financial and safety/environmental perspectives. We will also determine if the City is receiving all of the revenues it's supposed to.

I look forward to updating you on this important audit as our investigation progresses.

Focusing On...The Need to Shelve Our Outdated Warehousing



We all hold onto stuff we no longer need — and the same is true for the City of Los Angeles.

My office's recent audit of the City's warehousing practices found a system rife with inefficiencies. For example, we identified \$1 million in goods that had sat unused on City warehouse shelves for two years or more — including 20-year-old brake parts for police vehicles the City no longer uses.

In an accompanying report, I called on the City to consolidate its warehouses and outlined specific, technologically sophisticated ways for Los Angeles to modernize the way the City stocks its \$30 million inventory of goods — specifically urging it to adopt the warehousing processes that have become increasingly common in the private sector.

READ: [The full audit.](#)

Focusing On...Potholes



The still-anticipated El Niño rainfall will likely bring about many new potholes across the City. I want to be sure that L.A. is meeting the challenge.

With that in mind, my office is conducting a follow-up audit of the Bureau of Street Services' (BSS) pavement preservation program. The audit will assess BSS's progress in implementing the recommendations we made in our 2014 audit of the Bureau.

In the original audit, my office made a series of 28 recommendations, with an emphasis on using new technologies to bring the Bureau's oversight and processes up to speed.

READ: [2014 Audit of the Bureau of Street Services](#)

Focusing On...Sustainability (And Building the Infrastructure of the Future)

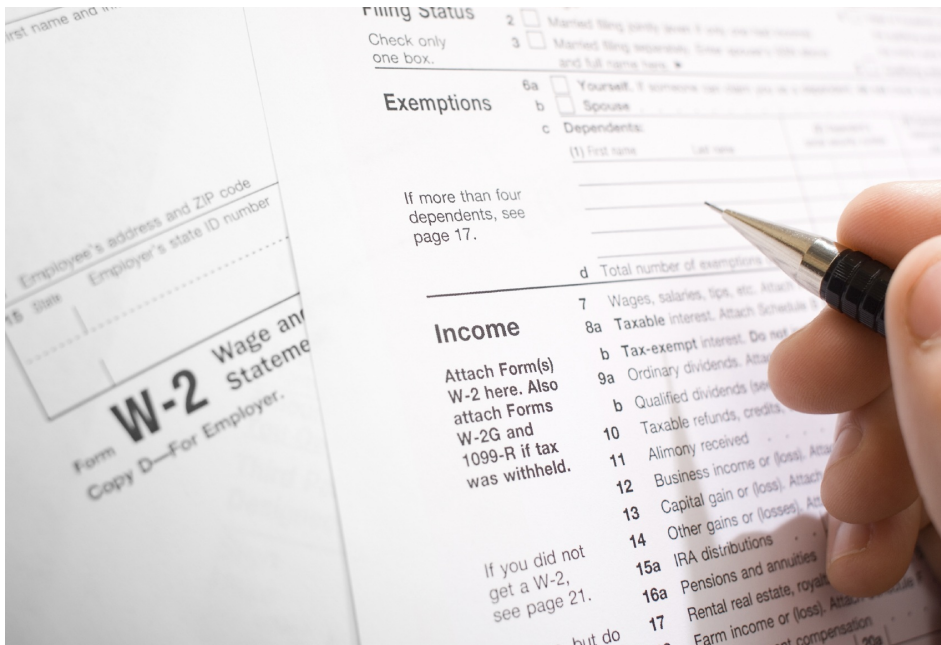


The City of Los Angeles will spend billions of dollars in the coming years to modernize its infrastructure. Bridges, roads, sidewalks, water pipes, street lights — all of these will need to be upgraded or replaced.

How will we pay for it all? How can we partner with the private sector to get it done? And how can we make take advantage of advances in green technologies to build sustainable infrastructure?

These questions and more were the subject of a panel discussion I led at the 9th annual [Verdexchange Conference](#). Each member of the panel offered a vision for how government and the private sector can partner to find creative solutions to our infrastructure needs — and how we can position our region to be the leader in the development of the renewables economy.

Focusing On...Apps and E-documents



I hate wasting paper. And stamps too.

My office, which processes most of the City's nearly \$5 billion annual payroll, now offers apps and e-forms designed to save time and money for the City and its workforce.

We've introduced electronic tax forms — and almost two-thirds of eligible employees signed up to get an email instead of the old paper forms.

In addition, our new MyPayLA app, which launched in the Fall of 2015, lets City employees view their paystubs and much more on their phones, expanding self-service options and reducing our overhead.

Focusing On...LA's Vibrant Korean Community



If you haven't recently eaten any Gujeolpan, Saengseon-gui, Andong jjimdak or Bulgogi, there's no better place this side of Seoul to enjoy these great Korean dishes than Los Angeles. That's thanks to the more than 100,000 Korean Americans who live in LA.

Last month marked 113 years since the arrival of the first Koreans to the U.S. At the Korean American Foundation's Korean American Day celebration, I was joined by Councilmember David Ryu and, of course, the members of the Korean American Foundation, as we celebrated 113 years of Korean immigration to the U.S. and the contributions that Korean Americans make to our community every day. 축하!
! Here's to the next 113 years!

A Thousand Words





With Mario Lopez at the Run to Remember race.



Honoring Chinese artists at opening night of the LA Art Show.



On Skid Row with other volunteers during the Greater LA Homeless Count.



With some of LA's best at Fire Station 20 in Echo Park.



Discussing DWP Reform with members of Valley Vote.





Speaking to the Council Energy and Environment Committee about our Industrial, Economic and Administrative Survey of the Dept. of Water and Power.

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